



**U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services**

January 15, 2019

COW2017001370

Taylor Scott Amarel
MuckRock News
Dept MR 45476
411A Highland Ave.
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

Dear Taylor Scott Amarel:

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act/Privacy Act (FOIA/PA) request received in this office November 14, 2017 regarding Correspondence with EXSO or IPO containing string "American Lending Center".

We have completed the review of all documents and have identified 21 pages that are responsive to your request. Enclosed are 7 pages released in their entirety and 14 pages released in part. We have reviewed and have determined to release all information except those portions that are exempt pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(4), and (b)(6) of the FOIA.

Exemption (b)(4) protects trade secrets and commercial or financial information that is privileged or confidential. The types of documents and/or information we have withheld may consist of unit pricing, business sales statistics; research data; technical designs; customer and supplier lists; profit and loss data; overhead and operating costs; and information on financial condition.

Exemption (b)(6) permits the government to withhold all information about individuals in personnel, medical and similar files where the disclosure of such information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. The types of documents and/or information we have withheld may consist of birth certificates, naturalization certificates, drivers' licenses, social security numbers, home addresses, dates of birth, or various other documents and/or information belonging to a third party that are considered personal.

In accordance with Department of Homeland Security Regulations (6 C.F.R. § 5.4(a)), USCIS uses a "cut-off" date to delineate the scope of a FOIA request by treating records created after that date as not responsive to that request. Therefore, in determining which records are responsive to your request, we included only records in the possession of this agency as of November 11, 2017, the date we began the search for records.

The enclosed record consists of the best reproducible copies available. Certain pages contain marks that appear to be blacked-out information. The black marks were made prior to our receipt of the file and are not information we have withheld under the provisions of the FOIA or PA.

You have the right to file an administrative appeal within 90 days of the date of this letter. By filing an appeal, you preserve your rights under FOIA and give the agency a chance to review and reconsider your request and the agency's decision. You may file an administrative FOIA appeal to USCIS at: USCIS FOIA/PA Appeals Office, 150 Space Center Loop, Suite 500, Lee's Summit, MO 64064-2139. Both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

If you would like to discuss our response before filing an appeal to attempt to resolve your dispute without going through the appeals process, you may contact our FOIA Public Liaison, Jill Eggleston, for assistance at:

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office
P. O. Box 648010
Lee's Summit, MO 64064-8010
Telephone: 1-800-375-5283
Email: FOIAPAQuestions@uscis.dhs.gov

If you are unable to resolve your FOIA dispute through our FOIA Public Liaison, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS), the Federal FOIA Ombudsman's office, offers mediation services to help resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal Agencies. The OGIS does not have the authority to handle requests made under the Privacy Act of 1974. The contact information for OGIS is:

Office of Government Information /Services
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road – OGIS
College Park, MD 20740-6001
Telephone: 202-741-5770
877-684-6448
Email: OGIS@NARA.GOV
Website: OGIS.ARCHIVES.GOV

The National Records Center does not process petitions, applications or any other type of benefit under the Immigration and Nationality Act. If you have questions or wish to submit documentation relating to a matter pending with the bureau, you must address these issues with your nearest District Office.

All FOIA/PA related requests, including address changes, must be submitted in writing and be signed by the requester. Please include the Control Number listed above on all correspondence with this office. Requests may be mailed to the FOIA/PA Officer at the PO Box listed at the top of the letterhead, emailed to USCIS.FOIA@uscis.dhs.gov, or sent by fax to (816) 350-5785. You may also submit FOIA/PA related questions to our email address at FOIAPAQuestions@uscis.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,



Jill A. Eggleston
Director, FOIA Operations

Enclosure(s)